

Cathy Shipley Best and Brightest Program Seeking Candidates and Mentors

The Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) is excited to announce the Cathy Shipley Best and Brightest program for the 2014 - 15 calendar year. The Best and Brightest program is a cost-effective, two-year administrative internship program that places master's degree students in small and/or rural governmental jurisdictions in Colorado to develop future local government administrators and managers.

Communities interested in participating are encouraged to contact their DOLA regional manager to express their interest. Up to fourteen communities will be selected to participate in this prestigious, International City/County Management Association (ICMA)-award winning program. Selections will be made the week of September 16. Participants will begin their internship January 1, 2014.

Selected towns and counties hire an intern for two years. During each of those years, DOLA provides a \$17,500 match that goes toward the student's annual salary and benefits package. Through this state and local partnership, students receive an annual salary and benefits package totaling \$35,000.

Reeves Brown, executive director of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs said, "This program is invaluable to smaller communities. It promotes workforce development, a cost-efficient vehicle for acquiring and grooming talent and encourages an ongoing partnership between state and local government."

Monica Daniels-Mika, Director of the Weld County Department of Finance and Administration said, "This program is vital for up and coming local administrators and managers. The Best and Brightest program provides on-the-job experience and the opportunity to learn the skills needed to become an effective government administrator. Succession planning is important for local governments to thrive and this program does a great job investing in our future."

Intern candidates must be graduate level students attending the University of Colorado at Denver (UCD) earning a master's degree from either the School of Public Affairs or School of Political Science.

Local government managers considered for the program must develop a work plan/job description for the proposed intern as well as a plan for mentoring the intern throughout their time in the local government. It is anticipated that the manager/administrator will be the mentor with an emphasis on a well-rounded view of city or county management.

The Cathy Shipley Best and Brightest Program is named in honor of Cathy Shipley, a former DOLA regional manager who provided services to the department's Northern Mountains region. Shipley, herself, was a Best and Brightest intern at UCD. Shipley succumbed to cancer, leaving a legacy that represents high standards in state government service, the fostering of state and local government partnership and mentorship of aspiring local government professionals.

For more information about participating as a host town or county, contact your Department of Local Affairs Regional Manager:

Central Region

Arapahoe, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, El Paso, Elbert, Jefferson, Teller

Clay Brown, Regional Manager

303-273-1787

clay.brown@state.co.us

Northeastern Region

Cheyenne, Kit Carson, Lincoln, Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington, Yuma counties

Greg Etl, Regional Manager

970-521-2414

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North Central Region

Adams, Boulder, Broomfield, Gilpin, Larimer, Weld counties

Don Sandoval, Regional Manager

970-679-4501

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Northern Mountain Region

Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Park, Pitkin, Routt, Summit

Greg Winkler, Regional Manager

970-668-6160

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Northwestern Region

Delta, Garfield, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Mesa, Moffat, Rio Blanco

Elyse Ackerman-Casselberry, Regional Manager

970-248-7333

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Southwestern Region

Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray, San Juan, San Miguel

Ken Charles, Regional Manager

970-247-7311

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South Central Region

Alamosa, Chaffee, Conejos, Costilla, Custer, Fremont, Lake, Mineral, Rio Grande, Saguache

Christy Culp, Regional Manager

719-589-2251

christy.culp@state.co.us

Southeastern Region

Baca, Bent, Crowley, Huerfano, Kiowa, Las Animas, Otero, Prowers, Pueblo

Lee Merkel, Regional Manager

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